

I hope there will be no artificial limits to XM's (or other satellite broadcasters) offerings, including local instant traffic and weather. In fact, just about 10 days ago I was returning from a trip to ND, and upon entering the MPLS metro area, we encountered severe weather. I tried to locate a local FM or AM station for info, but found nothing until almost 45 miles closer, and within the metro limits. It seems music and baseball were more important than tornado warnings (not watches). We had already passed within 3 miles of one tornado while on the highway in bumper to bumper traffic, and we were within 8 miles of at least 2 others.

One of the things I like most about XM are the offerings of instant news info from Fox, CNN, CNN HL news, and MSNBC. I think the instant traffic and weather are similar, and they are not provided by local stations like they should be. I believe you should let the competitive market determine the survivor, not give an artificial advantage to local stations who are falling below consumer expectations already.